

Message Text

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73

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 OMB-01 SAM-01 SAB-01 /082 W

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R 011445Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6895

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

UNCLAS CAIRO 9794

E.O. 11562: NA

TAGS: PFOR EG US UR

SUBJECT: INTERVIEW WITH VICE PRESIDENT HESNI MUBARAK

1. IN INTERVIEW WITH WEEKLY AKHER SAA PUBLISHED OCTOBER 1, VICE PRESIDENT HESNI MUBARAK MADE FOLLOWING POINT OF SPECIAL INTEREST:

2. DURING RECENT TALKS "DR KISSINGER SAID TO ME FOLLOWING HIS RETURN FROM ONE OF HIS TRIPS TO ISRAEL: YOU CANNOT REALIZE WHAT YOU HAVE DONE IN OCTOBER. YOU DO NOT KNOW ECHO THAT IS STILL HEARD ON OTHER SIDE. THEY HAVE THEIR EXCUSE FOR FEELING WORRIED BECAUSE THEY ARE IN STATE OF FEAR FROM EGYPTIAN ARMY. THEREFORE THEY ARE METICULOUS ABOUT EVERYTHING AND THEY DIFFER ON SMALLEST THING."

3. CEASEFIRE AND DISENGAGEMENT DO NOT MEAN RELAXATION. THERE ARE CONTINUOUS AIR UMBRELLAS WHICH KEEP EYE ON HOSTILE MOVEMENTS AND IN EVENT OF WARNING, "OUR PLANES STAND AREADY TO GO INTO ACTION IN SECONDS."

4. AFTER STATING THAT EGYPT STILL WISHES TO MAINTAIN FRIENDSHIP WITH USSR, IN SPITE OF ALL THAT HAS HAPPENED, AND THAT EGYPT IS GRATEFUL FOR HELP GIVEN DURING DIFFICULT TIMES, MUBAREK MADE SOME UNCLASSIFIED

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OF MOST STINGING CRITICISMS OF SOVIETS TO DATE:

A. "STAND OF USSR WAS CLEAR TO ME. I SPENT TOTAL OF 38 MONTHS THERE AND I LIVED CLOSE TO SOVIET EXPERTS WHEN THEY CAME TO EGYPT AND UNDERSTOOD THEIR SECRET INTENTIONS. USSR USED TO SEND US THEIR WEAKEST PILOTS AND THEIR EXPERTS WERE OF LOWEST STANDARD.

B. " WHEN WE STARTED TO STUDY POSSIBILITY OF FIRST STRIKE BY AIR, SOVIETS OBJECTED AND SAID WE WOULD LOSE 35 PERCENT OF OUR PLANES AND ONLY REACH 25 PERCENT OF OUR TARGETS. WE DID NOT LISTEN BUT MADE OUR PREPARATIONS IN SILENCE. OUR AIR STRIKE WAS A SUPRISE TO THEMFOR OUR LOSSES WERE ONLY 1 AND ONE-HALF PERCENT AND WE REACHED 95 PERCENT OF OUR TARGETS.

C. " DURING WAR OF ATTRITION SOVIET USED TO FLY AFTER ISRAELI PLANES HAD REACHED THE RED SEA ON THEIR WAY HOME. WE USED TO SUFFER IN SILENCE WHEN WE SAW THEIR MIGS FLY ACCORDING TO ORDERS RECEIVED FROM MOSCOW AND NOT TO OUR ORDERS."
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